

Libertytown Maryland vicinity

Frederick County, Maryland

The Reisler Farmstead consists of a 2 1/2 story brick dwelling built about 1855 and several domestic outbuildings, including a stone smokehouse and a frame summer kitchen, and a frame bank barn and a hog barn among the agricultural outbuildings. The house is unusual for the 2 1/2 story height. This type of house was more frequently built in towns rather than in rural locations in the mid-19th century. The interior has grained wood trim in the principal rooms of the main section.

Survey No. F-8-120
Reisler Farmstead
Libertytown, Maryland vicinity
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning

Resource Type:
Category: Building

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/kitchen
Domestic/secondary structure/smokehouse
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn

Known Design Source: None

7.1 Description

The Reisler Farmstead is an originally agricultural complex, now a private residence and separately leased farm, consisting of a circa 1855, 2 1/2 story brick dwelling house with 7 domestic outbuildings and three agricultural outbuildings ranging in date from contemporary with the house to the second quarter of the 20th century. The farmstead is located on the west side of Green Valley Road (MD Rt. 75), about 1500 ft. south of Coppermine Road, near Libertytown, Maryland. The house and outbuildings are about 50 yards off the main road in full view. The outbuildings include a frame summer kitchen adjoining the house's rear wing, a circa 1855 stone smokehouse, two chicken houses, a privy, a hog barn, a bank barn approximately contemporary with the house, a garage, and a gas shed.

The dwelling house is a 3-bay brick building in 7-course American bond with interior end chimneys, a standing seam metal gable roof and a stone foundation. It has a one-story porch on the east elevation and a two-story porch on the south elevation of the rear wing or ell which extends from the northwest corner of the main section. The windows are 6/6 on the first and second stories and 3/3 on the top half-story which is the attic. There are two doorways in the east elevation in the middle and south bays, each having a three-panel door with a glazed upper panel and a three-light transom. The porch has four square columns and a concrete platform, a replacement of the original wood deck. The cornice is corbelled brick. The north and south elevations each have two window bays flanking the chimney. On the north elevation, the west bay has been enclosed by a frame, horizontal wood-sized structure, which is a bathroom added in the mid-20th century. The rear wing or ell is two stories in height. The south elevation of the ell has an open two-level porch with a plain balustrade on the second floor. At the west elevation of the ell is a central projection rising the height of the house which encloses the chimney of the kitchen fireplace. The wood cornice of the ell's roof extends around the chimney stack with returns on the west face.

The plan of the house is basically a side hall type, with the variation of the two entrances in the east elevation. The staircase is on the interior wall of the parlor rather than in the hall. At the rear of the parlor is a cross hall connecting the side hall and the entrance to the ell. An extension of the single space in the ell is located on the north side of the ell. A corner stairway is located on the southwest corner of the ell. The main hall has grained wood four-panel doors and grained plain architraves on the window and door surrounds. The walls are plaster under mid-20th century wallpaper. On the south wall of the hall is the outline of a stovepipe opening in the location of the original chimney and fireplace opening. No other evidence of the fireplace is visible. The parlor has grained wood trim and a simple paneled mantel on the north wall. The fireplace opening is closed. A plaster elliptical arch drops from the ceiling at the rear of the room and the outline of a stovepipe is visible in the northwest corner. This may indicate a possible altered double parlor floor plan, but further research is needed to clarify the plan. The staircase is enclosed and accessible through a door at the foot of the stairs. The cross hall at the rear of the main section has plaster walls and a wide board floor. Similar floors in the side hall and parlor are covered with carpeting. A corner cupboard with plain paneled doors is located on the southeast corner of the cross hall, backed by the stairs in the parlor.

7.2 Description

The ell has been most altered among the first floor spaces. Rear wings in many houses of the same period in Frederick County had two rooms. The Reisler House ell is a single room with masonite paneled walls which conceal any evidence of a removed interior wall. An extension of the north side of the space is separated from the main area storage cabinets and countertops. The location of the fireplace on the west wall is completely obscured; only the exterior projection identifies its original location. The stairway in the southwest corner of the ell is open at the foot and enclosed by masonite paneled walls. The floor is covered with carpet.

Domestic Outbuildings:

Summer kitchen: The frame summer kitchen is a one-story structure adjoining the west end of the porch on the house ell. It has german siding, a corrugated metal roof, and an exterior brick and stone chimney on the west gable end. The interior has a tongue-and-groove horizontal paneled wainscot, vertical flush board doors in each gable end, and a plain wood mantel over the fireplace opening. The building appears to date from the 1850's.

Milk house: Adjoining the summer kitchen on the south elevation is a small roughly rectangular frame shed, with a corrugated metal roof and german siding. Small square 2/2 windows are located in the east and west elevations. A vertical flush board door opens in the south elevation. The milk house was used to store sterilized milk cans and was possibly built in the 1920's or 1930's.

Smokehouse: The smokehouse is a square stone building northwest of the house. It probably dates from the 1850's. The stone section is topped by a frame upper section which extends eastward from the stone base to form a partially enclosed equipment shed. The frame structure is covered with board and batten siding. The gable roof covering the entire structure is corrugated metal. The interior fireplace in the smokehouse has a massive wood beam over the fireplace opening.

Chicken houses: Two chicken houses are included in the domestic group. One is located north of the house and has german siding and a shed roof with a center door flanked by two square windows, facing south. The second chicken house is located southwest of the house and has vertical siding covered with corrugated metal siding and a shed corrugated metal roof. It has two doors in its east elevation flanked by windows of varying configuration. Both houses are primarily used for storage of tools and other equipment. Their construction date is possibly in the first decade of the 20th century.

Garage: The early 20th century garage is a frame building with vertical siding covered with metal siding in the mid-20th century. The gable roof is also covered with corrugated metal.

Privy: The late 19th century privy is a square building with german siding and a four-panel door under a shed corrugated metal roof located behind the chicken house southwest of the house.

7.3 Description

Bank barn: The bank barn was probably built in the third quarter of the 19th century, with vertical siding and some interior structure possibly dating from the last quarter of the 19th century. Metal siding has been applied over the wood siding on the north, east, and west elevations. The forebay on the south elevation and the feeding floor are undivided, retaining double feeding aisles, granaries, and mangers. Niches in the stone end walls for veterinary supplies are visible. The barn has a corn crib and wagon shed on the west elevation.

Hog barn: The hog barn was built in the first quarter of the 20th century. It has vertical siding and a gable roof covered with corrugated metal. The plan is typical of small animal barns, with a feeding aisle across its north side and four pens occupying the rest of the building. A concrete block wallow is attached to the south elevation. A single door is located in the north elevation, with a feed door above it.

Gas shed: This is a frame, open-sided shed located northwest of the house. It has vertical board siding and a corrugated metal roof. The open side faces east. Presently used to store gas tanks, the shed may have had other agricultural uses. Its date is unknown, but it could have been built in the second quarter of the 20th century. Nearby is a concrete floor slab, the site of a 19th century hog shed which was recently demolished by the current owner. A circular chicken house of the early 20th century stood just east of the chicken house north of the dwelling house; it was demolished in 1980.

8.1 Significance

The Reisler Farmstead is significant for the unusual architecture of the dwelling house, a 2 1/2 story brick building in a rural location. The context of residential structures with additional half stories is still being compiled; structures of this type have been located, however, its appearance in a largely unaltered exterior such as the Reisler house is unusual in the northeastern section of Frederick County.

The clear definition of the half story in the east elevation suggests the facade of an urban house such as those in the Frederick City Historic District rather than a farm dwelling.

The house may have been built by Owen and Thomas J. Reisler, who apparently operated the Liberty Copper Mine in the 1870's, as their names appear on the C.O. Titus Atlas Map of 1873, at the mine site on Coppermine Road a few miles northwest of the farmstead. The Reislers purchased the property in 1852 and T.J. Reisler's name is associated with the house site on the 1858 Isaac Bond Map and the 1873 Titus Map. It remained in the Reisler family until 1906.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Reisler Farmstead

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 9910 Green Valley Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Libertytown

☒ vicinity of

congressional district 6th

state Maryland

county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Larue E. Moxley & W. Dwight Repp

street & number 18939 Treebranch Terrace

telephone no.:

city, town Germantown

state and zip code MD 20874

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

liber 1579

street & number 100 W. Patrick St.

folio 93

city, town Frederick

state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. F-8-120

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 11

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-8-120

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Ca. 1855 **Builder/Architect**

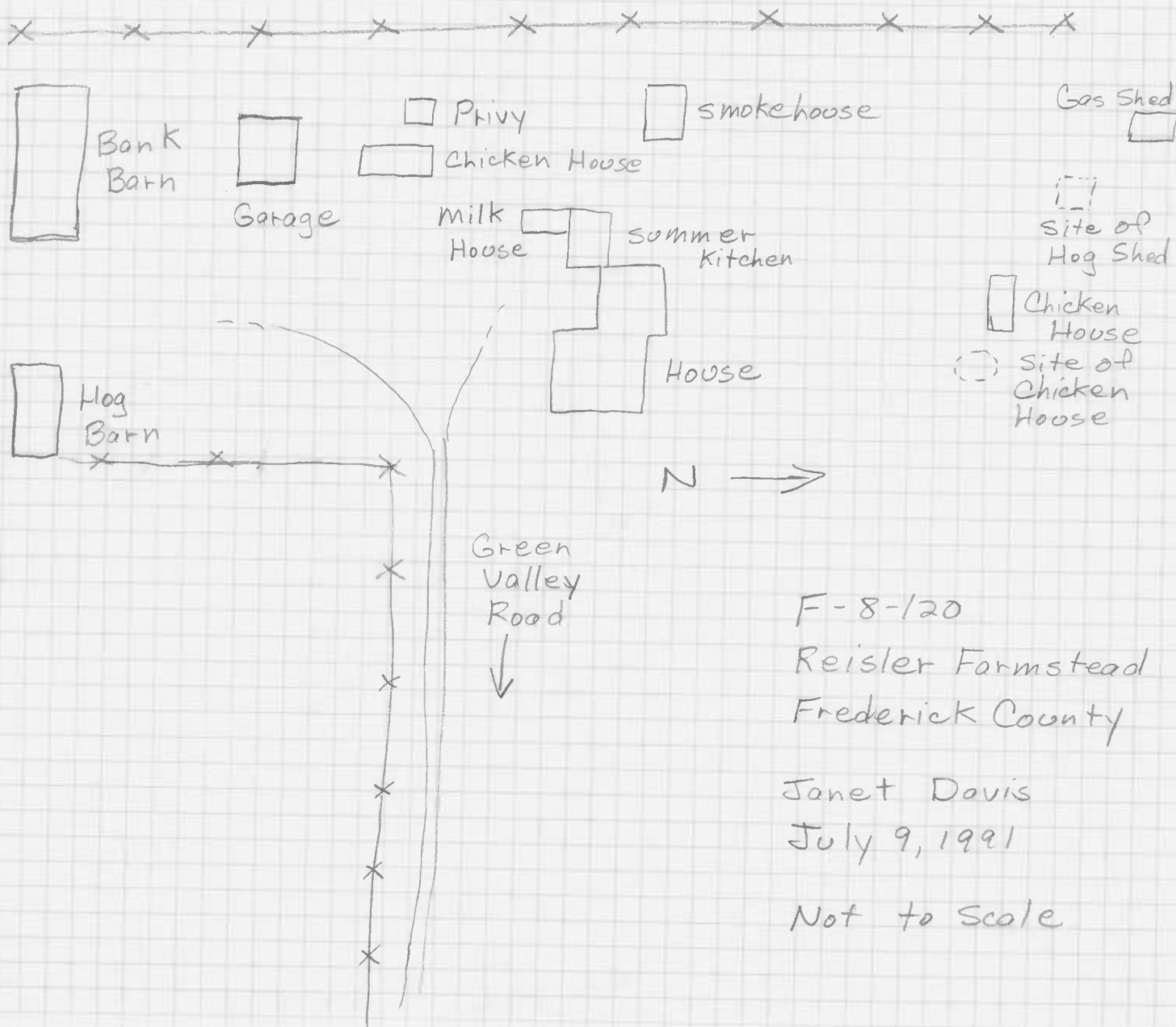
check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

(Typed on separate sheet)

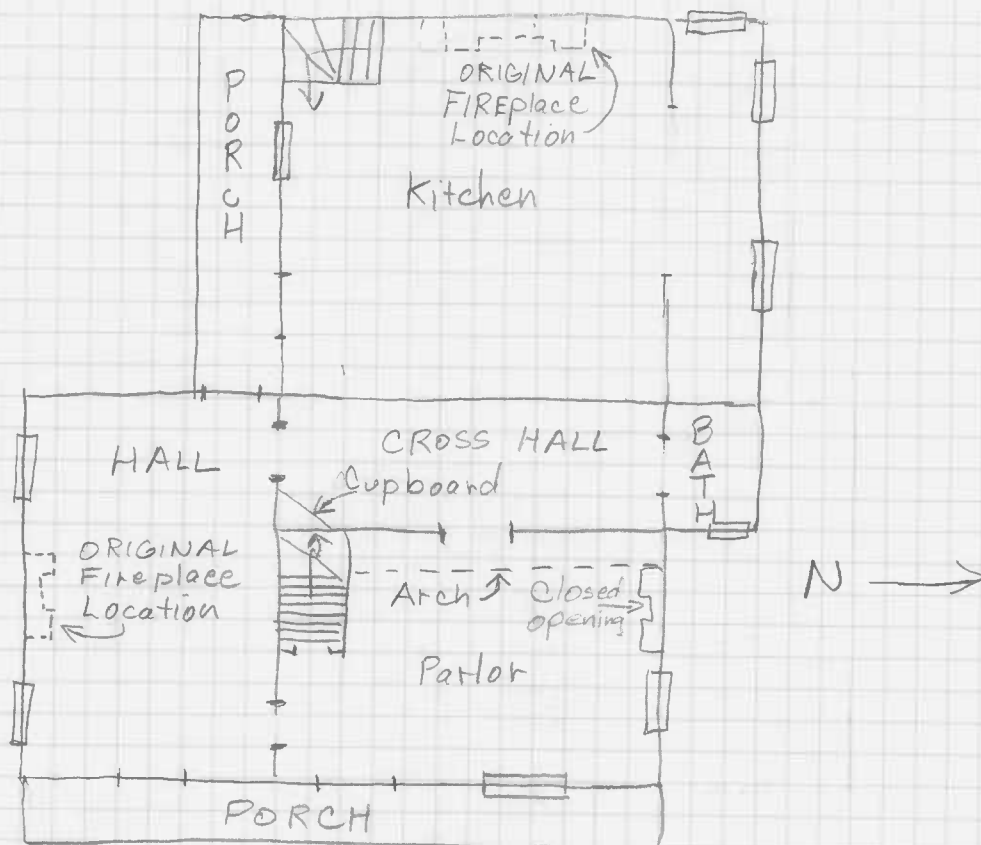


F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead
Frederick County

Janet Davis
July 9, 1991

Not to Scale

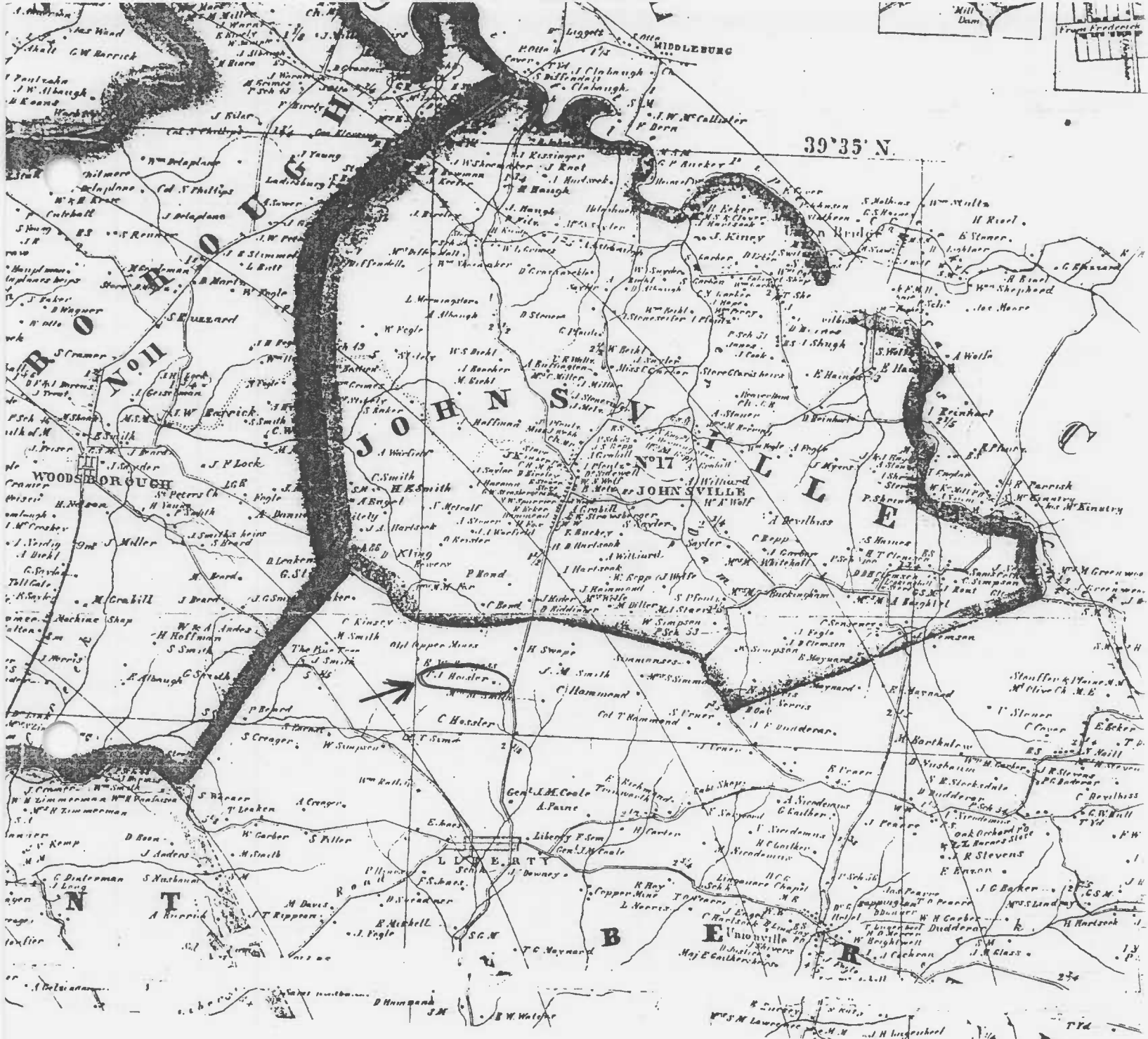


F-8-120
 Reisler House
 Frederick County

Janet Davis
 July 9, 1991

Not to Scale

LIBER/FOL. J	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
1579/93 21 Jun 89	Larue E. Moxley W. Dwight Pepp	(Mary E. Pepp, dec) Larue E. Moxley W. Dwight Pepp Successor Pers. Rep. of Estate			
441/517 28 Mar 44	Walter L. Repp Mary E. Pepp, sub. Walter L. Pepp, son	Perla M. Lowman widow			
342/339 26 Mar 23	Harry A. + Perla Lowman	John M. + Annie C. Smith	(Also mentions 2nd parcel 344/589 John M. Pepp 16 Aug 23 to Lowman) 8 A.		
312/34 15 Feb 15	George S. + Little B. Summers John M. Smith	George S. + Little B. Summers 50 A.	"Resurvey on Wingfield's (sic) Delight"	\$6624.75	
304/121 30 Mar 13	George S. Summers	Wesley J. + Lacy B. Summers	"		
292/518 24 Sep 10	Wesley J. Summers	Henry G. + Annie Radcliffe (Annie formerly Annie Lohmiller)	90 3/4 A.	\$7000	F-8-120
... (Deeds between Radcliffe + Geo. A. Pearce Mar. 15 + 16, 1907)					
276/450 3 Nov 06	Annie Lohmiller	Thomas J. Reisler Jr.		\$6600	
(Owen Reisler + wife conveyed their interest to Thos. J. Reisler by deed 26 May 1872. CM 10/130)					
ES 2/581 14 Aug. 1852	Owen Reisler, exif. + Thos. J. Reisler Jr. Carroll Co.	Newton Scott, Carroll Co.		\$1500	

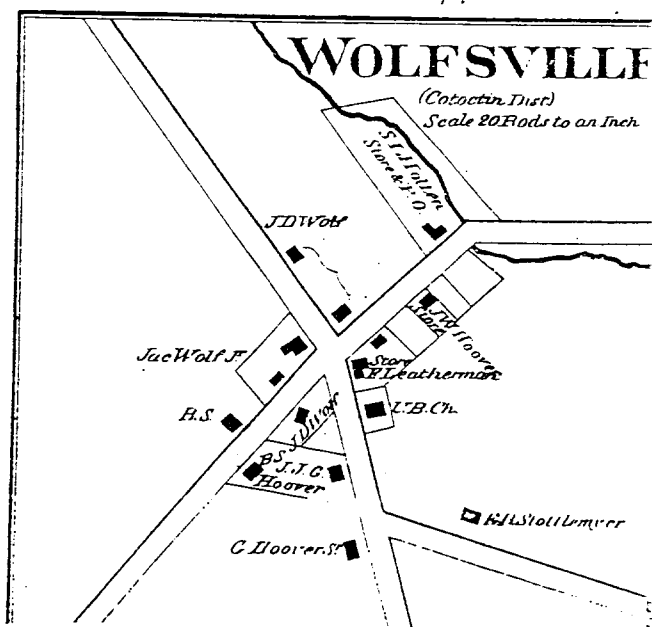


F-8-120

Reislser Farmstead

Frederick County

Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County, 1858



DIST. No. 8

Scale $1\frac{2}{3}$ inches to the mile

F-8-120
Reisler Farmstead
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873



F-8-120
Reisler Farmstead
Frederick County
USGS Union Bridge, Maryland
1:24000



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

East elevation

1/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

South elevation

2/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

West elevation and summer kitchen and
- milk house

3/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville. Md.

North parlor mantel piece

4/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Stairing detail, main hall

5/10



F.8-120

Reisler Farmstead
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Summer kitchen interior detail

6/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Smokehouse, south elevation

7/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Bank barn, north elevation

8/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Bank barn, forebay detail

9/10



F-8-120

Reisler Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Hog barn, north elevation

10/10